Sir:



06-21-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.:

0670004

First Named Inventor:

William G. Dennis

Inventor's Residence:

Jacksonville, Florida

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on June 20, 2001 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10, Mailing Label Number EE754872606US, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (37 C.F.R. §1.53(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box New Patent Application Washington, DC 20231

Duplicate for fee Processing

This is a request for filing a continuation patent application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) in

William G. Dennis and Michael E. Prosek the name of inventors:

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT SEAL ASSEMBLY For:

Application Elements:

20 Pages of Specification, Claims and Abstract

7 Sheets of informal Drawings

2 Pages of Declaration (unsigned)

Accompanying Application Parts:

Preliminary Amendment

Return Receipt Postcard

Applicant claims Small Entity Status Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27

True Copy of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/434,608 as originally filed

This application is a continuation (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120) U.S. Application Serial No. 09/434,608, filed November 15, 1999. The disclosure of the prior application is considered part of (and is incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application.

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